

Message Text

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TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith FULL TEXT TOM BRADEN COLUMN, WASHINGTON POST
MAY 25, 1974, HEADLINED "HENRY KISSINGER: AN AMERICAN
HERO."

2. FOREIGN JOURNALISTS IN THIS CITY ARE CONSTANTLY
ASKING US DOMESTICS TO EXPLAIN THE PHENOMENON OF SECRETARY
OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER. HOW, THEY ASK, CAN THIS LITTLE
ROUND MAN WITH A GERMAN ACCENT BECOME AN OVERNIGHT AMERICAN
HERO, THE HOLLYWOOD STAR, THE HALFBACK, THE HOLDER OF THE
RECORD FOR HOME RUNS?

3. I HAVE HEARD THIS QUESTION ASKED 100 TIMES AND I HAVE
HEARD THE ANSWERS: WELL, WE SAY, HE HAS AN EXCELLENT SENSE
OF HUMOR- OR WE SPEAK OF HIS INTELLIGENCE, OR OF THE
DRAMA--HERE WE BORROW AN IDEA FROM KISSINGER'S FAMOUS INTER-
VIEW WITH THE ITALIAN LADY JOURNALIST--OF RIDING INTO TOWN
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ALL ALONE.

4. BUT ON SECOND THOUGHT, I DON'T THINK INTELLIGENCE OR A

SENSE OF HUMOR OR EVEN THE COWBOY ANALOGY ARE VERY GOOD ANSWERS TO THE QUESTION.

5. I THINK THE ANSWER IS THAT OUR SECRETARY OF STATE IS THE ALL-AMERICAN BOY. "AS AMERICAN AS APPLE PIE" IS NO LONGER ACCURATE. AS AMERICAN AS HENRY KISSINGER IS WHAT WE'RE REALLY THINKING, AND THERE'S A LOT OF HISTORY TO OUR THOUGHT.

6. CONSIDER: WE AMERICANS LIKE TO THINK OF OUR COUNTRY AS THE GREAT MELTING POT. KISSINGER IS EVERYBODY'S IMMIGRANT.

7. WE AMERICANS BELIEVE--WE TRULY BELIEVE--THAT IN EDUCATION LIES PROGRESS, SUCCESS, PERHAPS EVEN SALVATION. AND WHAT IS HENRY? HE'S EVERYBODY'S UNIVERSITY DEGREE.

8. WE AMERICANS BELIEVE ABSOLUTELY IN THE SELF-MADE MAN. "MONEY ISN'T EVERYTHING," WE TELL OUR CHILDREN, AND YOU CAN SUCCEED IF YOU TRY." THIS IS THE LAND OF OPPORTUNITY, ISN'T IT? AND HENRY KISSINGER? HE'S THE POOR BOY WHO PULLED HIMSELF UP BY THE BOOTSTRAPS.

9. DO IT YOURSELF. ISN'T THAT THE AMERICAN FAITH? HENRY KISSINGER IS THE GUY WHO INVENTED A BETTER MOUSE-TRAP. AND THEN SOLD IT. IT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO THE LEXICON OF THE AMERICAN FAITH THAT HE SOLD IT. A PRAGMATIST, TOO; NEITHER A LEFT-NOR A RIGHT-WINGER: A MAN WHO REJECTS IDEOLOGY IN FAVOR OF IDEAS, DOGMA IN FAVOR OF DEED, THE INEVITABLE IN FAVOR OF THE INVENTIVE.

10. A PROGRESSIVE. A MAN WHO NEVER SUBSCRIBES TO THE ULTIMATE SOLUTION BECAUSE THERE IS ALWAYS THE POSSIBILITY THAT HE MIGHT DO BETTER.

11. BUT NOT AN INTELLECTUAL. NOT WITH HIS EYE FOR THE LADIES. AND THAT GIRL HE MARRIED--BEAUTIFUL--AND UNCLASSIFIED

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TALLER THAN HE IS.

12. ISN'T THAT THE AMERICAN BOY?

13. ADD THAT HENRY KISSINGER IS THE NEIGHBOR WHO SPEAKS WITH AN ACCENT; AND NOT ONLY THAT, HE'S THE MAN THE

NEIGHBOR HAS IN MIND WHEN THE NEIGHBOR SAYS, "WHY
SOME OF MY BEST FRIENDS ARE JEWS-"

14. TRY IT FOR YOURSELF. ASK YOUR NEIGHBOR WHAT HE
THINKS OF HENRY KISSINGER. I ASKED MY NEIGHBOR, A FORMER
LIGHT-HEAVYWEIGHT BOXER, WHO IS A BASQUE, AND WHO WAS MOW-
ING HIS LAWN IN HIS UNDERSHIRT WHEN I CONDUCTED MY POLL-

15. I GOT THE FOLLOWING ANSWER: I'LL SAY ONE THING FOR
HIM, HE DIDN'T STAY HOME AND RUN THE OFFICE; THAT'S FOR
SURE. HE SAW WHERE THE TROUBLE WAS AND HE WENT OVER
THERE AND FIXED IT- THOSE KINGS AND PREMIERS, YOU KNOW,
THEY'RE JUST PEOPLE LIKE THE REST OF US, AND HE GOT THEM
TOGETHER AND, BY GOLLY, THEY CALLED IT OFF."

16. A SIMPLE VIEW? OF COURSE. DOES IT CONTAIN THE UN-
SPOKEN ASSUMPTION THAT IF THE NEIGHBOR HAD STUDIED AS
HARD AS DR. KISSINGER STUDIED, HE MIGHT HAVE TAKEN ON THE
JOB HIMSELF? OF COURSE.

17. DOES THAT MAKE THE ANSWER WRONG? ON THE CONTRARY, IT
SEEMS TO ME MY NEIGHBOR IS DEAD RIGHT--AND SO IS YOURS--
AND THAT IS WHY OUR SECRETARY OF STATE IS ALSO OUR ALL-
AMERICAN BOY. (END TEXT) BROWN

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